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Southmeadow
Fruit Gardens

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CHOICE AND UNUSUAL FRUIT VARIETIES
for the
CONNOISSEUR AND HOME GARDENER
1961



THE FRONTISPIECE

The front cover is a reproduction of a colored stipple Engraving of the classic French apple variety Calville Blanc by the French artist, Pierre Joseph Redoute, from his famous work, Choix des Plus Belles Fleurs et des plus Beaux Fruits (1827).

The photograph at the right shows this same apple as grown in my garden in Birmingham, Michigan on a two year old dwarf tree in the fall of 1960.



SOMETHING ABOUT SOUTHMEADOW FRUIT GARDENS

The increasing interest in backyard fruit growing and a demand for choice unusual fruit varieties has led to the publication of this catalogue. As can be readily seen by the varietal lists in the pages which follow, Southmeadow Fruit Gardens is not a typical nursery nor is this a typical nursery catalogue. But I believe it will be of interest and use to every home fruit gardener and connoisseur of choice fruits.

DISCOVERY AND TESTING

Southmeadow was started over ten years ago for testing fruit varieties of high quality. Whenever a variety reported to have outstanding flavor was learned of—whether from the literature of pomology, or from amateur collectors, or from scientists working with varietal collections at state or federal experiment stations—scionwood was located, if possible, and the variety grown. Countless other varieties have been tasted, during travels, while exploring old orchards, through samples from friends and during visits to other collections here and abroad. Out of this experience it is hoped at Southmeadow to provide some answer to the often asked and seldom answered question, "What are the choicest, best flavored varieties to grow in the home fruit garden?" All fruits that could be grown in

the climate of southeastern Michigan have been tested including apples, pears, peaches, nectarines, plums, cherries, grapes, raspberries, gooseberries, etc. The collection now numbers over 150 apples, 30 pears, 40 peaches and nectarines, 40 plums, 25 cherries, 75 grapes, 15 gooseberries. Additional varieties of high repute are continually being located and added to the collection.

The Importance of the Variety

The home fruit gardener is not limited to the commercial varieties available in the stores. He may grow what he pleases and hence may enjoy the choicest and most delicious varieties of fruits, but it is unfortunately true that only by growing them himself can the gourmet and connoisseur ever taste these varieties.

In a recent article in the Fruit Varieties Digest, publication of the American Pomological Society, I described some forty-one apples of outstanding flavor. Yet only two of these are commercially available. With the more tender fruits such as peaches and plums home-growing is even more essential. Even commercial varieties of mediocre quality usually cannot be had at their best from the store since they must be picked hard or "green ripe" to arrive unspoiled.

Only the home gardener can really know the exquisite sparkling flavor of a fresh peach or plum picked sun-ripe at its peak of perfection. Among my family and friends the expression is frequently heard, "I don't think I really knew how a plum tasted before."

There is also the pleasure of variety

itself. Just as a rose fancier would not limit himself to one variety of rose or a music lover to a single symphony so a lover of choice fruit should be able to savor some of the infinite range of flavors, textures, colors and sizes that exist in the various varieties of apples or among grapes and even in the lowly gooseberry.

By means of grafting and budding, the home fruit gardener may have several varieties on one branch and thus in the same space multiply his enjoyment many fold. I have one apple tree with forty-two different varieties — virtually every branch a different variety — and it bears from July to November a succession of different kinds from the little Fall Russet and the green Granny Smith to the brilliant red Orenco.

AUTHENTICITY

One of the most important factors for the home gardener who wishes to grow choice and unusual fruit varieties is assurance that he is really getting the variety he has chosen. Of course, one has a legal right to get what he orders. But if a mistake is made with fruit trees the matter is not as simple as returning a shirt of the wrong size or color.

In the first place with most of the older American varieties and almost all the foreign varieties the home gardener will never know if he has the wrong variety. Most of the older varieties can only be identified by a trained pomologist and then only by observation of the tree habits as well as several samples of the fruit. With the unusual and

rare varieties the home gardener must be able to rely on his source for the authenticity of what he receives.

Secondly, for all fruit growers and especially those who take up this delightful pastime later in life it is not so much the loss of the tree and the relatively small price paid for it but it is the loss of time. Even on dwarf root stocks it is usually the second or third year after planting or grafting before fruit is obtained. This loss of time is irreparable because the man who wants to taste these rare and choice fruits must grow them himself. There is no other way to get them.

My own early experience in this regard was not dissimilar to many others I have heard of

since. Out of my first order of eight different trees of older varieties only two -- after four and five years of care, pruning, cultivating, and spraying -- bore fruit of the variety I had ordered. One, supposed to be Egremont Russet, a famous old English variety, turned out to be a rather common American variety. But I did not then know the difference and sent scionwood to others of this false "Egremont Russet." This has all now been corrected. The true variety has been located and is growing on a two year old graft. But still after ten years effort I have not yet had a taste of this reputedly fine old English variety.

No variety has been listed in this catalogue which has not fruited here at Southmeadow and which has not been thoroughly checked

for authenticity with the available authorities.

A Reliable Source for Trees and Scionwood

Southmeadow provides a reliable source of scionwood and trees of the unusual and rare variety. Scionwood is supplied for grafting or budding to the grower's own rootstock or for regrafting or adding to already established trees. Propagation of grapes and gooseberries by rooting can be done from cuttings.

Grafting is a simple operation readily learned which provides much satisfaction and has certain advantages. Although I have been grafting varieties for several years, it is always still a wondrous thing to observe

the dormant scionwood unite with the stock and grow out in the spring with all the characteristics of the new fruit locked up in the seemingly lifeless piece of twig. By regrafting undesirable varieties or adding new varieties to younger trees the connoisseur may quickly taste some of the choicest varieties. Those with memories of the old Golden Russet, or the Newtown Pippin, or some other fruit of childhood days may again have these fast disappearing but never equaled old varieties. Grafts frequently produce fruit the second or third season after they are made.

For those interested in acquiring trees and plants, arrangements have been made with an experienced and reliable nurseryman for the

propagation of the best of the old and new varieties using scionwood from bearing trees at Southmeadow. Dwarf one year apple trees of a few selected varieties are available for shipment this spring (1961). These varieties are separately described in this catalogue. Many additional apple varieties will be available in the fall of 1961, and the best varieties of plums, grapes and peaches will be added subsequently.

Any apple variety in the lists which follow may also be had on dwarf stock by special order for the fall of 1961. These trees will be grafted in the spring to the desired dwarf rootstock and will be ready for shipment in the fall of 1961.

DWARF TREES

Only dwarf trees should be planted in the home fruit garden. Where it takes as long as nine to ten years to have fruit on standard stock, fruiting usually takes place on dwarf root stocks the second or third year after planting. And only in trees as small as the dwarfs can a home gardener often find space to grow fruit or hope feasibly and easily to handle pruning, spraying and harvesting.

The varieties listed below are available on EM VII root stocks with a few available on EM IX. EM IX gives a typical dwarf tree and is best adapted for good garden soil but the roots are small and staking or some trellis support is probably necessary. EM VII adapts well to heavy or poor soils and generally does not need staking. Although of greater vigor than EM IX, I find it can be maintained comparably dwarfish in size by proper pruning and training. These dwarf trees are

budded or grafted high so that on transplanting the bud or graft union may be kept well above the ground to avoid scion rooting.

The following varieties (available as dwarf trees) are among the most delicious dessert apples of my acquaintance.

Orenco

This is one of the most beautiful of all high quality dessert apples. Almost solidly bright red with inconspicuous light colored dots, it is medium large in size. The tender, crisp, juicy white flesh has a sweet, mild but piquant flavor. It was introduced by the Orenco Nursery Company of Orenco, Oregon, whence its name, about 1920. This fine nursery has since gone out of business but a large tree of the Orenco apple still stands in the little town of Orenco. It is unfortunate that this splendid apple has virtually disappeared from cultivation. Season - middle of September.

APPLES

Calville Blanc d'Hiver (White Winter Calville)

This is the classic dessert apple of France. Mentioned in 1627 by Le Lectier, procureur for Louis XIII, it is still served for dessert in the finest Paris restaurants. Its tender, spicy flesh with a delicate banana-like aroma belies its high Vitamin C content, in which characteristic it exceeds not only all other eating apples, but even the orange. It is a large flat-tish round apple with uneven ribs extending the whole length of the fruit and terminating in prominent unequal ridges at the base. Pale green with light red dots on the side exposed to the sun, it turns a beautiful yellow in storage as it

reaches maturity. In France it is considered unsurpassed by any other variety for its excellence of quality. It requires a sunny location to ripen fully. I find its character and quality varies from season to season like a vintage grape. Season - end of October and early November.

Lyman's Large Summer

This magnificent large green, sometimes yellow apple is decidedly the best of the early eating apples. Though ripening in early August it has the breaking crisp juicy flesh and clean pure flavor, blending sweet and sub-acid, of the finest winter apples. This apple under the name Large Yellow Summer was first described

in William Kenrick's New American Orchardist (1844) as a "large fruit of surpassing excellence." It was highly recommended by other early American pomologists. Old Michigan records show that a plate of Lyman's Large Summer was exhibited by one James Dougall of Amherstberg, Ontario, Canada on August 24, 1847 in Detroit at the Exhibition of the First Horticultural Society of Michigan. But the variety is not mentioned in any of the pomological literature since 1900 and seemed to have been lost entirely. Then it was accidentally rediscovered in 1941 by a New Hampshire collector from scionwood found in Wilton, Maine of a tree thought to be Coles Quince, a famous Maine apple rated highly by the pomologists of a century ago. But when it

fruited it was recognized to be Lyman's Large Summer. Our trees of this variety are unusually fine vigorous stock, mostly branched.

Jefferis

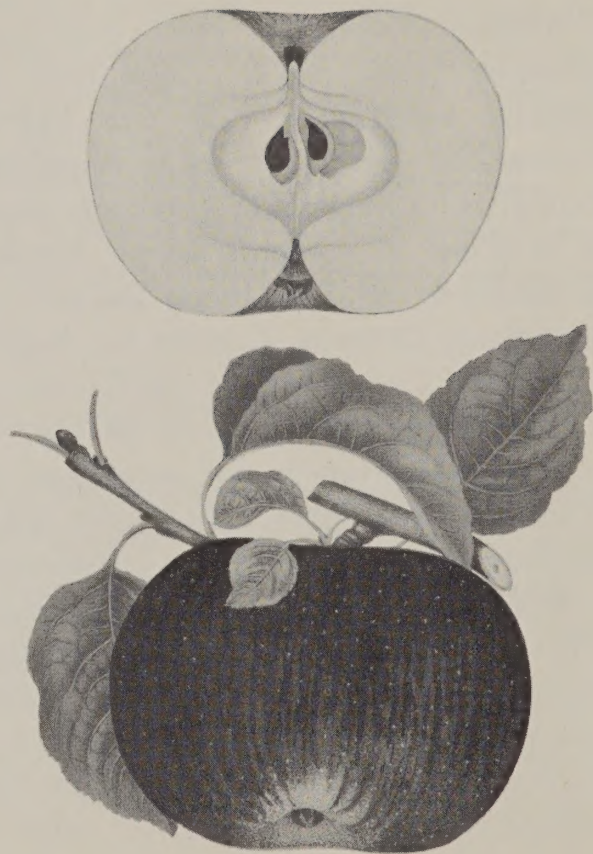
In 1888, Dr. H. E. Van Deman, U. S. Pomologist, said, "If I should be asked to select the choicest early autumn apple known to me, I should say the Jefferis... No family orchard should be without it." When one considers these are words from a man who was acquainted with more fruit varieties than any man of his time, it is certainly high praise indeed. And it is still merited today, for Jefferis is one of the truly delicious fruits of the garden.

APPLES

The rich pear-like flavor of the juicy, crisp yet tender and melting yellowish flesh is unsurpassed. The color is mostly an attractive light red with darker red stripes. The hardy tree rates as high as the fruit, bearing a heavy crop every year. It originated on the farm of Isaac Jefferis of Chester County, Pennsylvania, and in 1848 was awarded the premium by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for the best seedling apple exhibited.

Stearns

This is the largest apple I know with superb flavor. It is of rather old fashioned appearance with red stripes and a yellow ground. Its flesh although crisp to the teeth is melting and tender and almost dissolves on the tongue. Its fla-



JEFFERIS

vor has a rich, luscious pure apple taste. I have had fruit thirteen inches in circumference on a five foot dwarf tree in my garden. An amazing sight!

Stearns originated with a man of that name in North Syracuse, New York and was sent for testing to the New York Agricultural Experimental Station in 1900. Shortly thereafter it was propagated and sold by the Van Dusen Nursery of Geneva, New York until about 1930 when that nursery discontinued business. The son of the original owner of the nursery has told me that in addition to its eating qualities Stearns was especially fine for cooking. I have never had enough to spare for this purpose. Season - first and second week of September.



STEARNS

APPLES

Lady Apple

This exquisitely beautiful little dessert apple delights the eye as much as the palate. Small, flattish in shape, its shiny skin ranges from bright yellow in the shade to a deep glossy crimson on the side next to the sun. Its flesh is tender, white, crisp, very juicy, refreshing and slightly perfumed with the best of the flavor in the skin which should always be eaten.

Known in Europe as "Api" or "Pomme d'Apis," the Lady Apple is of great antiquity. Some writers even trace its

origins to Appius Claudius, the Roman censor who constructed the Appian Way and who is asserted to have brought the apple from Peloponessus. It was grown in the gardens of Louis XIII at Orleans in 1628 and was a favorite French dessert apple "which the ladies of France carry in their pockets by reason they yield no unpleasant scent." From the earliest days in America it has always been a fancy apple used not only for dessert at Christmas time, but also for Della Robbia wreaths and garlands of fruit. It makes a fine dwarf tree which bears heavily. Very late - November.

SCIONWOOD

(Varieties are listed approximately in the order of ripening.)

Older American Varieties

Summer (July - August)

Crimson Beauty	Primate
*Palouse	Benoni
William's Favorite	
(William's Early Red)	*Summer Pearmain
*Sops of Wine	
(of ancient	*Jefferis
European origin.)	
Summer Rose	Russet Sweet
*Lyman's Large Summer	Late Strawberry
*Early Joe	Almata

Fall (September)

Porter	* Mother
*Lord's Seedling	* Orenco
Chenango Strawberry	* Nebo
(Sheepsnose)	McIntosh
*Dyer (Pomme Royale)	* Blue Pearmain
*Stearns	Fameuse (Snow
Hawley	Apple)
*Muster	Jonathan
*Mexico	Tompkins King
*Fall Russet	Smokehouse

*Exceptionally rare varieties

APPLES

Winter (October - November)

* Senator (Oliver)	* Pomme Gris
Rhode Island	Roxbury Russet
Greening	Lady (Ancient
Stayman Winesap	European)
Canada Red	Esopus
(Steele's Red)	Spitzenberg
Delicious	Golden Russet
	Yellow
* McClellan	Belleflower
Winter Banana	
Golden Delicious	* Swaar
	Yellow Newtown
* Hubbardston	(Newtown or
Nonesuch	Albermarle Pippin)
* Russet Baldwin	Black Gilliflower
(Red Russet)	
Westfield	* White Winter
Seek-no-Further	Pearmain

* Exceptionally rare varieties

Newer American Varieties

Chestnut Crab	Prairie Spy
Redhook	Melrose
Jubilee	Idared
Fireside	

Foreign Varieties

<u>Finnish</u>	<u>Irish</u>
* Huvitus	* Irish Peach
* Red Cinnamon	* Ross
(Punainen Kaneeli)	Nonpareil
<u>Russian</u>	
Red Astrachan	<u>Swedish</u>
Yellow Transparent	Gyllenkroks
	Astrachan
* Lowland Raspberry	* Akero
Emperor Alexander	

APPLES

Danish

Gravenstein
(Meads Red
Sport)
*Signe Tillisch
*Ingrid Marie
*Eldrod Pigeon

English

Knotted Kernel
*Ribston Pippin
*St. Edmunds Pippin
*Lamb Abbey
Pearmain
*Rosemary Russet

*Blenheim Pippin
*Orleans Reinette
➤ Cox's Orange Pippin
*Pitmaston Pine
*Ashmead's Kernel
*Tydeman's Late
Orange

New Zealand

*Granny Smith

French

Pomme d'Or
*Pigeonette Rouge
*Calville Blanc

*Exceptionally rare varieties

PLUMS

The two principal types of plums for the home gardener are the European (*prunus domestica*) sometimes called garden plums and the Japanese or oriental plums (*prunus salicina*). The European type are generally considered to have the finest flavors and the greatest variety of colors and types. The Japanese types are generally much larger, with softer, more juicy flesh, but also have excellent flavors although of a different character than the European types. (Scionwood available only.)

European type

*Early Laxton
De Montfort

*McLaughlin

*Washington
*Laxton's Gage
Green Gage
(Reine Claude)

*Exceptionally rare varieties

*Pearl

*Imperial Gage

*Reine Claude
D'oullins

*Kirke's Blue
Early Trans-
parent Gage
Red Reine

*General Hand

*Jefferson
Imperial Epineuse
Prune d'Agen

*Count Althann's
Gage

Golden Trans. Gage

*Bavay

*Middleburg
Sannois
Albion

*Transparent Gage
(Reine Claude
Diaphane)

*Coe's Golden Drop

Japanese type

Laroda
Elephant Heart
Nubiana

PEACHES, NECTARINES AND PEARS

PEACHES AND NECTARINES

(Scionwood available only)

Balmer	*Brugnon Galopin (Nectarine)
Merrill Delicious	Nectaheath
Raritan Rose	*Late Crawford
Slaphey	*Peento Seedling (NHNC4)
Nectar	*Oldmixon Free
Redrose	Gold Drop
*George IV	
Hale Haven	*Summer Snow

*Exceptionally rare varieties

PEARS

(Scionwood available only)

Beurre Dumont	*Niji Seiki (Twentieth Century)
Dana's Hovey	*Passe Crassane
Gorham	Seckel
*Josephine de Malines	Vermont Beauty
	Winter Nelis

GRAPES

GRAPES (Cuttings Only Available)

Old American and American Hybrids

Agawam	*Dunkirk
Alden	*Dutchess
*Barry	Fredonia
Bath	Golden Muscat
*Brilliant	*Green Mountain
Brocton	(Winchell)
Buffalo	*Iona
*Captivator	*Kendaia
Catawba	*Keuka
Concord	*Lindley
Delaware	Ontario
*Diamond	

Portland
Romulus
Ruby
*Salem
Schuyler
Sheridan
Steuben
Van Buren
Yates

<u>Seedless</u>
*Bronx Seedless
Himrod

<u>European (vinifera)</u>
*Perle de Csaba

<u>French Hybrids</u>
Seibel 9110
Seyve-Villard 20-473
Seyve-Villard 20-365

*Exceptionally rare varieties

GOOSEBERRIES

(Cuttings only available)

* Captivator

* Glenton
Green

* Clark

* Gunner

* Criterion

* Honings
Earliest

Fredonia

* Howards Lancer

* Lancashire Lad

* Leveller

Poorman

* Red Warrington

* Sylvia

* Whinams Industry

* Whitesmith

* Exceptionally rare varieties

A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION OF HOME FRUIT GROWING ON DWARF TREES --



A two-year old dwarf apple tree -- less than 3 feet tall.



A bowl of apples picked from the tree at the left.



The photographs to the left show how the home gardener can have full sized fruit very quickly from dwarf trees no larger than a gooseberry bush. The apples in this picture are Lord's Seedling, an old New England early fall dessert variety.

Same tree in blossom
the following spring.

ORDERING INFORMATION

TREES

Orders for trees may be sent directly to Lorne J. Doud, Nurseryman, Route 1, Wabash, Indiana. We have this year only a limited number of trees available of the varieties described above, (Lyman's Large Summer, Jefferis, Stearns, Orenco, Calville Blanc, Lady) and orders will be filled in the order they are received. Prices are F.O.B., Wabash, as follows:

Calville Blanc - \$4.50 ⁂

Lyman's Large Summer - \$5.50

Jefferis - \$5.50

Orenco - \$4.50

Stearns - \$5.50

Lady - \$4.50

Trees will be shipped express.

Special orders for any of the apple varieties in the Scionwood list will be taken at \$5.50 per tree. These trees will be grafted this spring and shipped in the fall. Special orders received too late for spring grafting will be budded in the fall and shipped the fall of 1962.

SCIONWOOD

Because of the cost involved in cutting, labelling, packaging and shipping a basic charge of \$1.00 is made in connection with all orders for scionwood. To this should be added the amounts set out in the following schedule:

Scionwood	25¢ per linear foot
(Exceptionally scarce varieties)	
	50¢ per linear foot

ORDERING INFORMATION

Cuttings 3 for 25¢
(Exceptionally scarce varieties)
 3 for 50¢

Airmail add 50¢

Exceptionally scarce varieties are noted with an asterisk (*) on the preceding pages.

Because of the limited supply of many of the varieties we reserve the right to allocate stock in short supply. Southmeadow scionwood is True-to-name and

will not be furnished unless the variety has fruited and has been checked with available authorities. Store scions in a cool, moist place.

We plan to ship scionwood, postpaid, in late March or April.

Orders for scionwood and all questions regarding varieties and culture should be directed to Southmeadow Fruit Gardens, 2363 Tilbury Place, Birmingham, Michigan.

"Fine fruit is the flower of commodities. It is the most perfect union of the useful and the beautiful that the earth knows. Trees full of soft foliage; blossoms fresh with spring beauty; and, finally, -fruit, rich, bloom-dusted, melting, and luscious- such are the treasures of the orchard and garden, temptingly offered to every landholder in this bright and sunny, though temperate climate."

Andrew Jackson Downing

The Fruits and Fruit Trees of America

1845